Atty. Docket No. GRA01 P-423

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

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Date

Catherine M. Updegraff

Catherine M. Updegraff

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

2835

Applicants

David M. Mitteer et al.

Appln. No. Filing Date

10/762,837 January 22, 2004

Confirmation No.

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Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the above-referenced application but, to the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

As the Office has waived the requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication, copies of the listed U.S. patents and each U.S. patent application publication documents are not included with the submission of attached Form PTO 1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not

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Appln. No.

10/762,837

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constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 16-2463.

Respectfully submitted,

Registration No. 41 883

Price, Heneveld, Cooper, DeWitt & Litton, LLP

695 Kenmoor, S.E. Post Office Box 2567 Grand Rapids, MI 49501

(616) 949-9610

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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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